

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, after the title ending at line 3, insert the heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 3, after the end of the first full paragraph ending at line 12, insert the heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 6, before the beginning of the third full paragraph beginning at line 26, insert the heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 7, after the end of the first full paragraph ending at line 5, insert the following paragraph:

Figure 4 is a flowchart of a method according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

On page 7, before the beginning of the second full paragraph beginning at line 6, insert the heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS OF THE
INVENTION

On page 13, replace the paragraph beginning at line 14, and ending at line 32, with the following amended paragraph:

With reference to FIG. 4, The~~the~~ method consists in:

- dividing time intervals IT into time slots T (S410) each associated with an access time slot during which a terminal UE can send an access request to the network, and of selected width greater than or equal to the duration of an access request (or preamble) and then divide those time intervals IT into sub-intervals SI (S420) including at least two consecutive time slots T and

prohibit the terminals UE from sending access requests during at least one of the access time slots TI (S430) associated with the time slots T of each sub-interval SI at the same time as authorizing them to do so during non-prohibited access time slots TA (S440),

- defining in each sub-interval SI a number, at least equal to the number of time slots T that it contains, of processing time windows F (S450) offset in time and of width substantially equal to that of a time slot T, and

- deducing from the window F to which a received access request belongs at least one access delay of the requesting terminal UE relative to a reference (S460) and then sending an acknowledgement message (S470) to that requesting terminal UE at a moment selected as a function of that access delay so that it can receive it in a predefined acknowledgement time interval.